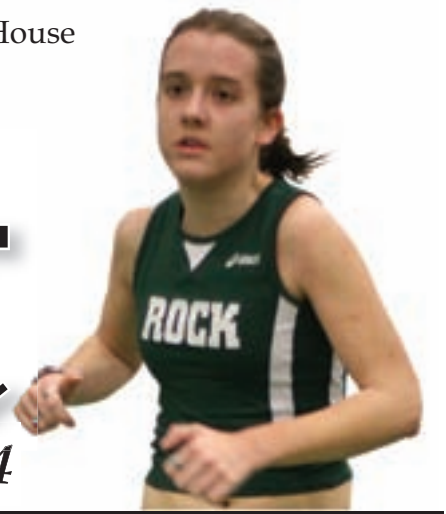




# The Rocket

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## Women's swimming cut, but given final season Water polo squad's days numbered, too

By Amy Kelly  
Rocket News Editor

Slippery Rock University announced late last week that the women's water polo team will no longer be in existence after the conclusion of the 2008 season and that the women's swimming program has been extended through the 2008-09 season.

"We wanted to give the women's swimming team a final season," SRU President Robert Smith said. "Women's water polo already started, so this will be their final season."

Smith said that the university is continuing on with the plan it developed in 2006 that called for the elimination of eight men's and women's varsity sports for budgetary reasons. A lawsuit brought by 12 student athletes

caused three of those eight sports—field hockey, women's water polo and women's swimming—to be brought back to keep the university in compliance with Title IX.

The 1972 Title IX law requires that both men and women be given equal opportunities for participation in athletics at universities that receive federal funding.

"The university is saving 350,000 recurring

dollars each year," Smith said.

By cutting the eight teams, Smith said, the university's anticipated saving, in other words, it grows by \$350,000 each year.

"Since cutting the original teams, women's participation in SRU sports has grown by 10 percent," Smith said. "They also have

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## Democratic forum brings political members to campus

By Jessica Moore  
Rocket Contributor

No more than 10 to 15 SRU students were on hand for last week's forum that featured four Democratic candidates hoping to represent the third Congressional district of Pennsylvania come November.

The four candidates—Kyle Foust, Tom Myers, Mike Waltner and Kathy Dahlkemper—shared their views with students and community members at the primary election candidates forum held in the Advanced Technology and Science Hall auditorium on Feb. 9.

Greenville, Pa., Mayor Dick Miller served as the moderator of the forum.

Each candidate was asked to address issues such as the Iraq war, fixing crumbling transportation infrastructure, the country's economic recession and gender equity.

Students said that bringing the candidates to campus was a good opportunity to get involved.

"I think it is a good way to get college students involved and let them know what is going on with the political race," Sarah Backus, a 21-year-old junior majoring in secondary education, said earlier this week.

Dahlkemper said she speaks at colleges and has also set up Facebook and MySpace accounts to better connect with students. More candidates should be invited to college campuses, she said.

"It is amazing how many students are not



Democratic candidates for the third Congressional district of Pennsylvania (clockwise from top left) Kyle Foust, Mike Waltner, Tom Myers and Kathy Dahlkemper visited SRU on Feb. 9 to share their political views with the Slippery Rock community.

SEE STUDENT, PAGE A-3

## SGA president vetoes senate approval for employee's salary increase

By April Aven  
Assistant News Editor

Student Government Association President Larry Brink vetoed the senate's approval of the Cooperative Activities Board's decision to change the job title classification of the administrative assistant to the Co-Op office to fiscal assistant on Thursday.

The change would have given the current representative \$13.96 per hour with a \$1,250 bonus rather than the \$10.96 per hour currently being paid.

Brink clarified why he vetoed the motion. "SGA did have a role in initially assigning the position," he said.

"This will send the motion back to the Co-Op board and let them give us a new option to vote."

The vote was split between the senate, as

the motion passed by a 15-14 margin before Brink's veto.

Kathy George, the business manager of Co-Op, explained that assigning the position did go through the senate, but during the summer, when SGA was not present, another person was hired to fulfill the job.

George said that originally, the administrative assistant to the Co-Op office was hired to do simple tasks such as answering the phone and doing paperwork.

"Administrative assistant' fit the job description then," George said. "But the job has truly evolved."

George explained that the person who fulfills the administrative position to the Co-Op board has taken on more responsibilities

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Student Government Association President Larry Brink vetoed the 15-14 senate approval to change the job title classification of the administrative assistant to the Co-Op office to fiscal assistant on Thursday. The change would give the current representative \$13.96 per hour with a \$1,250 bonus rather than the \$10.96 per hour currently being paid.

### WEATHER

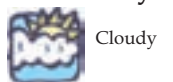
Forecast from National Weather Service

Friday



High: 37; Low: 13

Saturday



High: 29; Low: 16

Sunday



High: 35; Low: 18

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